

In reply refer to:
File # 2623

**Joshua Tree National Monument
Twentynine Palms, California**

June 1, 1957

**Cover Sheet for Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1957, Joshua Tree
National Monument.**

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In reply refer to:
File A 2423

Joshua Tree National Monument
Twentynine Palms, California

June 1, 1957

Memorandum

To: Director
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument
Subject: Annual Report - Fiscal Year 1957

Personnel:
Permanent

Samuel A. King, Superintendent, transferred to Mt. McKinley,
January 24, 1957
Elmer H. Fiedmark, Superintendent, transferred from Glacier,
February 25, 1957
Hosmer L. Karenfight, Chief Park Ranger
Bruce W. Black, Park Naturalist
Charles F. Adams, Park Ranger
Lawrence F. Knowles, Landscape Architect
Hildred I. Miller, Administrative Aid
Jean E. Pavelka, Clerk-typist, May 6 to present
Alva D. Conner, Mixed Gang Foreman
John R. Bianco, Operator-general
Paul E. Katz, Garretaker
Kenneth A. Van Yassell, Laborer

Seasonal:

Ronald D. Miller, Information-Receptionist, W.A.E.

Two seasonal rangers are employed November through April, and two fire control aids are employed May through October.

The addition of a Clerk-typist to the permanent staff was a great asset, and has made it possible to keep office work more up-to-date, and to catch up on some of the backlog of work which had accumulated.

Joshua Tree National Monument

General:

A daughter, Fricilla Montine, was born to Landscape Architect and Mrs. Lawrence F. Knowles, August 20, 1936.

A daughter, Pauline Jean, was born to Park Naturalist and Mrs. Bruce W. Black, May 1, 1937.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Travel

Travel to the monument and use of campgrounds continue to increase. On numerous occasions over 500 visitors received information and interpretive service at the monument office. There appears to be a strong trend towards the use of small overnight trailers by campers. On weekends especially, the campgrounds overflow with house-trailers, most of which are 15 to 20 feet in length.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Leads:

The past year has been an active one in land transactions. Several acquisitions were started. Most of these are not complete at this time, but will be completed in the coming fiscal year.

1. Condemnation Action, Civil 18,043 H.W.	10,838.30 acres
2. Geo. H. Willatt filed exchange application with the B.L.N.	680. acres
3. Dr. Allen Walcott option	240. acres
4. Raymond Entry option	25. acres
5. Wendell Kinney exchange	720. acres
6. Carl G. Allen exchange	5,901.12 acres
7. Mr. & Mrs. Carl D. Hanson option	640. acres
8. Option was completed for the Haynes property	160. acres

The Farrington-Mann operation on the Silver Bell Mining Claim is believed to be in trespass and has been referred to a mine examiner.

Kaiser Steel drilled a well on monument land and court action resulted in their giving up the well.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Public Relations:

Relationship with local communities is in general very good. The assignment of a naturalist to the monument has resulted in a better understanding of the objectives of the Service. There is still some opposition by road building and mining groups, but this is apparently not as strong as in former years.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Improvements

A sewer system was constructed at the monument headquarters and a septic tank and leach line were installed at the Pinto Wye Utility Area.

Eleven additional concrete campground tables and stoves were installed in campgrounds.

All signs were repaired and repainted.

The nature trail through the Twentynine Palms Oasis was brushed out and cleaned up. Dangerous limbs were removed from Cottonwood trees in the Oasis, and at Cottonwood Campground.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Protection:

The Protective Division with a chief ranger and only one ranger continues to be entirely inadequate to cope with the large number of visitors. There is much damage to desert plants and wildlife. Some species of cacti are actually almost extinct within a considerable distance of roadsides. The use of four-wheel drive vehicles is a continual problem, as new roads get established and vegetation is damaged.

It would also be desirable to keep a better check on activities on mining claims.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Interpretation:

After the guide leaflet for the Oasis Nature Trail was made available, the use of this trail increased tremendously. The use and sale of these guide leaflets have far exceeded expectations. Other nature trails are also heavily used. The assignment of a full-time naturalist to this area has resulted in a better understanding and greater sympathy with Park Service objectives on the part of local communities. There is great need for expanded interpretive service to the thousands of visitors who now come to this area.

Natural History Association Sales have nearly tripled in the past year.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Wildlife

The water problem for our Desert Bighorn and Mule deer continues to be acute. This problem is further aggravated by the eagerness of many visitors to see these animals. Visitors who go to the water source to see these animals usually keep the animals away from water. Food is apparently plentiful. It is hoped some additional water can be developed under our MISSION 66 program. The two principal sources of water are on private property.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Plans, Maps, Surveys:

The 30 mile Equestrian and Hiking Trail to be constructed in 1959 F.Y. was surveyed and marked.

The fire truck trail from lower to upper Covington Flats was also located.

A Natural History Base Map was completed.

The U. S. Corps of Engineers completed field work on the Pinyon Wells Quadrangle Topographic Map.

A brief of MISSION 66 for this area was completed.

A radio test survey of the area was completed in anticipation of obtaining area-wide radio communication. The heavy travel makes radio communication very urgent.

Work is in progress on preparation of master plan sheets for all campgrounds.

P.C.P.'s have been completed for several MISSION 66 projects.

Joshua Tree National Monument.

Research and Observations

Dr. John Goodman of the University of Redlands, has made a field study of the Desert Bighorn in Joshua Tree National Monument, and has written a paper on his findings. Copies of the paper have been forwarded to Region Four.

Invertebrates collected in several tanks following the 1956 floods were sent to Caltech for identification. They were found to be Fairy Shrimp, Glass Shrimp and Tadpole Shrimp. Apparently eggs laid by the parent adults may remain fertile for many years. then hatch when moisture conditions are favorable.

(Sgd) E. N. FLADMARK

Elmer N. Fladmark
Superintendent

In reply refer to:
File A 2623

**Joshua Tree National Monument
Troutyana Pains, California**

July 1, 1957

Memorandum

To: Director
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument
Subject: Annual Report - Fiscal Year 1957 Supplement

Lands:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Miss Beth McCall, option signed | 65 acres |
| 2. Ann Havner, acquisition completed | 5 acres |

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**Joshua Tree National Monument
Twentynine Palms, California**

July 1, 1957

**Cover Sheet for Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1957 Supplement, Joshua
Tree National Monument.**

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Joshua Tree National Monument

Improvements:

All exterior wood surfaces on the headquarters office building were painted.

22.84 miles of road were given an oil rescal treatment. A dust palliative treatment was applied to .6 miles of road and also to the 2,000 sq. yds. Pinto Nye utility area. A 4 inch premix mat was applied to the trail between the headquarters office and utility building.

16 sierra type toilet seats were installed.

1,630 gallons of road oil were placed in storage and 14,300 gallons were put into premix at various locations.

Joshua Tree National Monument

Miss. Mrs. SURVEY:

The MISSION 66 prospectus has been revised and will be resubmitted in the near future.

**Elmer H. Fladmark
Superintendent**